

COMPETITION WORKS

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



COMMONWEALTH COMPETITION COUNCIL

VIRGINIA GOVERNMENT COMPETITION ACT OF 1995

- Change the culture of government •
- Competition • Innovation
- Entrepreneurship •

Commonwealth Competition Council Why was the Council created?

The General Assembly enacted the **Virginia Government Competition Act of 1995** which created the Commonwealth Competition Council. The Council is a bipartisan, independent entity of state government consisting of ten members, six appointed by the Governor and four appointed by the General Assembly, to search for effective long-term government solutions.

What are the Council's functions?

- Determine what areas of government can be provided by the private sector
- Develop areas for internal competition in government
- Conduct feasibility studies; cost benefit analyses; and public/private performance analyses
- Seek, evaluate and recommend effective public-private partnerships

Examples of recent successful competitive initiative programs in Virginia

- Sale of Virginia Education Loan Authority assets to a private loan servicing firm
- Pilot privatization of VDOT stores warehouse
- Dulles Greenway, a privately financed toll road
- Management and maintenance of the state's movable bridges
- Private management of roadside rest areas

- Private construction and management of prisons
- Privatization of child support enforcement offices
- Private operation of college bookstore
- Privatization of student health services

What does privatization mean?

The Virginia Government Competition Act of 1995 defines privatization as a variety of techniques and activities which promote more involvement of the private sector in providing services that have traditionally been provided by government. The Council believes that whatever form of these techniques, the underlying objective is to tap the competitive forces and creativity of the private sector to increase efficiency, lower costs, and improve service quality to Virginia citizens.

Privatization techniques:

- Asset sales
- Contracting out
- Public-private partnerships
- Franchise; service shedding
- Vouchers; grants; subsidies; donations
- Volunteerism; deregulation
- Long-term leases; sale and leaseback
- Build-operate-transfer

Can the Council receive unsolicited proposals?

Yes! The Council seeks citizen suggestions and/or unsolicited proposals which are consistent with the Council's responsibilities. Qualified suggestions and proposals may undergo a public/private performance analysis and the analysis may result in a recommendation by the council to proceed with competition for the government activity or services.

What is a public/private performance analysis?

A public/private performance analysis is the initial step to determine whether a function, operation, activity or service should undergo competition with the private sector. If competition is recommended, formal publicly solicited proposals and bids are used to determine final decisions.

Do you have a voice with the Council?

Yes! All Council meetings are open to the public. Times and locations of meetings are listed in the Virginia Register which is published every two weeks.

You are welcome to attend Council meetings and offer suggestions and recommendations within the framework of making Virginia government more cost-effective and competitive. The Council also encourages citizens to send their ideas or proposals to the Council's office at the mailing address below. A section of this brochure may be used for your correspondence.

A Note of Gratitude

The Council thanks you for your interest to improve the delivery of government services to Virginia's citizens.

Where can you get further information?

Commonwealth Competition Council

P. O. Box 1475

Richmond, VA 23218-1475

Staff Office located in James Monroe Building

Telephone (804) 786-0240

FAX (804) 786-1594

email: competition@state.va.us

Internet: www.state.va.us/ccc/compete.htm

Please complete the following and send to Commonwealth Competition Council:

Commonwealth Competition Council

Date: _____

Name the agency and the function, activity or service to which you are making a recommendation to make it more cost-effective and competitive:

I offer the following recommendation:

I would like to be placed on the Council's mailing list for meeting notices ☐ and newsletter ☐

My name: _____

Address _____